

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicant has modified claims 1 and 3 to comport with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. These claims also distinguish over Fleischauer ('417) because Fleischauer does not teach or suggest an intermediate component with casters disposed between end plate components adapted for fixation within an intervertebral disc space.

Replacement drawing sheets are attached hereto for all figures.

Questions regarding this application may be directed to the undersigned attorney by telephone, facsimile or electronic mail.

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

John G. Posa  
Reg. No. 37,424  
Gifford, Krass, Groh, Sprinkle,  
Anderson & Citkowski, P.C.  
PO Box 7021  
Troy, MI 48007-7021  
(734) 913-9300  
Email: [jposa@patlaw.com](mailto:jposa@patlaw.com)

Date: Dec. 11, 2006